

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 00646 242122Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W
-----250213Z 027645 /71
R 242110Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3882

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, BL
SUBJ: PRESIDENT BANZER REITERATES HIS INTENTION TO MOVE TOWARD
A DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT WITH THE INCORPORATION
OF LABOR UNIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES

1. BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT HUGO BANZER MADE SPEECH ON JANUARY 21
TO A CONGRESS OF RAILWAY WORKERS' UNION "COORDINATORS" IN
COCHABAMBA. BANZER PUT THE EMPHASIS ON HIS MILITARY GOVERN-
MENT'S INTENTION TO RETURN TO AN INTEGRATED DEMOCRACY BASED
ON CHRISTIAN AND HUMANIST DOCTRINES. BANZER SAID THE ARMED FORCES
GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS HAS ACCOMPLISHED THE STRENGTH-
ENING OF THE NATION'S BASIC INSTITUTIONS AND ECONOMY AND
VERY SHORTLY IT WILL BEGIN TO PREPARE THE MEANS WHEREBY LABOR
UNIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES (WHOSE ACTIVITIES ARE IN RECESS)
CAN PLAY A ROLE IN THE CHANGES UNDERWAY. HE SAID THAT SOLVING
THE COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS WOULD REQUIRE SACRIFICES FROM ALL,
INCLUDING WORKERS, WHO WOULD HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR
CAPACITY TO AVOID ALLOWING INTERNATIONAL EXTREMISTS TO CAPTURE
THE LABOR UNION MOVEMENT.

2. COMMENT: THE PRESIDENT AND HIS CLOSE ADVISORS HAVE BEEN
DISCUSSING FOR MONTHS SPECIFICALLY HOW THE GOB SHOULD MOVE
TOWARDS FULFILLING BANZER'S PROMISES TO RETURN TO A
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DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT BY 1989. BUT BANZER IS
MOVING SLOWLY AND CAUTIOUSLY, WARY OF THE POTENTIALLY
DESTABILIZING EFFECT ON HIS REGIME OF TAKING THE LID OFF
UNION AND PARTY ACTIVITIES. END COMMENT.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAPAZ00646
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770025-1153
Format: TEL
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770125/aaaaavsk.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d2222bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3523451
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT BANZER REITERATES HIS INTENTION TO MOVE TOWARD A DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT WITH THE INCORPORATION OF LABOR UNIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES
TAGS: PINT, BL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d2222bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009